. . TENT COOPERATION TREA. Y

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	From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU		
PCT	То:		
NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION (PCT Rule 61.2)	Assistant Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Box PCT Washington, D.C.20231 ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE		
Date of mailing (day/month/year) 04 February 2000 (04.02.00)	in its capacity as elected Office		
International application No.	Applicant's or agent's file reference		
PCT/FI99/00424	8D15PC		
International filing date (day/month/year) 17 May 1999 (17.05.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 18 May 1998 (18.05.98)		
Applicant			
LIPSANEN, Mikko et al			
The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made. X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary 15 December	Attention (New York) Attention (New York)		
The International Bureau of ₩IPO 34, chemin des Colombettes	Authorized officer R. E. Stoffel		

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Form PCT/IB/331 (July 1992)

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

PCT

REC'D - 2 OCT 2000
WIPO PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)						
8D15PC International application No.	International filing date (day mo							
PCT/FI99/00424	17.05.1999	18.05.1998						
	I							
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC ₇ H04M 15/00, H04Q 7/38								
HO4M 13/00, HO4Q //30								
Applicant	Applicant							
Telefonaktiebolaget L	M Ericsson (publ	l) et al						
Γ								
1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.								
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	of 4 sheets, includ	ling this cover sheet.						
been amended and are the t	nnied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets opasis for this report and/or sheets on 607 of the Administrative Instru	of the description, claims and/or drawings which have containing rectifications made before this Authority actions under the PCT).						
These annexes consist of a total of	of sheets.							
3. This report contains indications re	elating to the following items:							
I Basis of the report								
II Priority								
III Non-establishment o	f opinion with regard to novelty, i	inventive step and industrial applicability						
IV Lack of unity of inve	ention							
	under Article 35(2) with regard to porting such statement	o novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations						
VI Certain documents c	ited							
VII Certain defects in the	e international application							
VIII Certain observations	on the international application							
Date of submission of the demand	Date o	of completion of this report						
15.12.1999	15.12.1999 20-09-2000							
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/S Fatent- coh registreringsverket	E Autho	orized officer						
Facsimile No. 08-667 72 88	fan Hermanson/js hone No. 08-782 25 00							



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

nternational	application	No

PCT/FI99/00424

I. Basis of the report						
1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (Replacement sheets which have been fivrilished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.):						
the international application as originally filed.						
pages	. as originally filed.					
pages	, filed with the demand.					
pages	. filed with the letter of					
	, filed with the letter of					
Nos.	. as originally filed,					
	_ , as amended under Article 19.					
	, filed with the demand,					
	, filed with the letter of					
Nos.	. filed with the letter of					
sheets/(īg	, as originally filed.					
ed in the cancellation of: pages Nos. sheets/fig						
the drawings, sheets/fig This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)). 4. Additional observations, if necessary:						
	n this report as "originally filed I application as originally filed pages pages pages pages pages pages Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Nos. Sheets/fig s					



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI99/00424

V.	Resoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability:
	citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement Novelty (N) Claims 1 - 9 YES Claims NO Inventive step (IS) Claims 1 - 9 YES Claims NO Industrial applicability (IA) Claims 1 - 9 YES Claims NO

2. Citations and explanations

The claimed invention relates to a method of providing information relating to a telephone call to a data storage system. Caller identity information is received at an exchange during a call set-up procedure and an incoming call alert message is transmitted to a called device. A Call Data Record containing at least the received caller identity information is outputted to a data storage system prior to or in direct response to a reception of a call answer message.

Document cited in the International Search Report:

D1: US 5 712 908 A
D2: US 5 396 548 A
D3: WO 95 22230 A2
D4: US 5 506 893 A

D1 relates to an apparatus and method for generating call duration billing records utilising ISUP messages in a CCS/SS7 telecommunications network. An elapsed time calculator computes elapsed time of the particular call according to the difference in the start and end times of the call, using timestamps associated with the correlated call set-up and terminating MSUs. A record generator generates a call duration billing record for the call from the correlated MSUs to create an elapsed time billing record.

D2 discloses a communications system that detects special service information (calling party identification) during a silent interval between ringing signals on an incoming call and stores the information in a call record created for the call.

... /...



International application No.

PCT/FI99/00424

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Box V

D3 relates to a method and apparatus for identifying call records.

D4 discloses a telecommunication network arrangement for providing real time access to call records.

The claimed invention differs from the prior art. D1 discloses a method of generating call duration billing records. A billing record containing information such as time of off-hook, calling number and called number is established in the local exchange of the calling subscriber (see col. 6, lines 59-61). The message utilised to begin timing a call may be an Address Complete Message, an Answer Message or an Exit Message (see col. 3, lines 62-65). D1 does however not reveal a method where a Call Data Record containing information such as caller line identity is transmitted to a data storage system prior to, or in direct response to receipt of a call answer message. This difference is considered to involve an inventive step. D2-D4 disclose the general state of the art.

In conclusion, with reference to the cited prior art, the invention as claimed in claims 1-9 is novel and is considered to involve an inventive step. The invention claimed in claims 1-9 is considered to have industrial applicability.



REQUEST

For receiving Office use only
International Application No.
International Filing Date
Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"
Application and the state of th

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"				
	Applicant's or agent's file (if desired) (12 characters				
Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION		MD15PC			
DOX 170. 1 111 LE OF HTY ENTION					
·	ECOMMUNICATION	I NETWORK			
Box No. II APPLICANT					
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a designation. The address must include postal code and name of cou address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country of residence is indicated below.)	intry. The country of the	This person is also inventor.			
TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M ERICSSON	(publ)	Telephone No.			
S-126 25 Stockholm		P1-31- N1-			
Sweden	*	Facsimile No.			
		Teleprinter No.			
		1			
State (that is, country) of nationality:	State (that is, country)	of residence:			
SE		SE			
		e United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box			
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURT	HER) INVENTOR(S)				
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a latesignation. The address must include postal code and name of country address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country, of residence is indicated below.) LIPSANEN, Mikko Harakkamäentie 59 B FIN-21380 Aura Finland	ntry. The country of the) of residence if no State	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked do not fill in below.)			
State (that is country) of nationality:	State (that is, country) o	of residence:			
This person is applicant.	1	FI			
		e United States America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box			
X Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated o	n a continuation sheet.				
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE: OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE					
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act o of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities	n behalf x a	gent common representative			
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a designation. The address must include postal co	legal entity, full official	Telephone No.			
·		+358-9-6866840			
Borenius & Co Oy Ab	•	Facsimile No.			
Kansakoulukuja 3 FIN-00100 Helsinki	,	+358-9-68668444			
Finland		<u></u>			
		Teleprinter No.			
Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no	o agent or common repres	entative is/has been appointed and the			
space above is used instead to indicate a special address to w	hich correspondence shou	ild be sent.			

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)						
If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.						
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) NILSSON, Patrik, Kim Kellonsoittajankatu 8 B 9 FIN-20500 Turku Finland	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)					
State (that is, country) of nationality: FI State (that is, country)	of residence:					
This person is applicant all designated all designated States except	the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box					
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) PALM, Patrik, Kjell-Johan Starrängsringen 42 S-11550 Stockholm Sweden	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-bax is marked, do not fill in below.)					
State (that is, country) of nationality: SE State (that is, country)	of residence:					
This person is applicant all designated all designated States except to	he United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box					
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)					
State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that is, country)	of residence:					
	the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box					
Name and address: (Family name foilowed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address incicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-bax is marked, do not fill in below.)					
State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that is, country)	of residence:					
	the United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box					
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.						

Box N	Box No.V DESIGNATION OF STATES						
The fi	The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):						
Dania	! D	and designations we hereby made dides itale 4.5(a	, (11101	× 1716	applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):		
Regio							
\boxtimes	AP	ARIPO Patent: GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT					
☒	EA	Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State					
₩	EP	of the Eurasian Fatent Convention and of the PC1					
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\square		Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ø				
		_			Madagascar		
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\boxtimes	ES	Spain	X	SE	Sweden		
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\boxtimes		United Kingdom	\mathbf{X}	SI	Slovenia		
\boxtimes		Grenada	\boxtimes	SK	Slovakia		
\boxtimes	GΕ	Georgia	\boxtimes	SL	Sierra Leone		
\boxtimes	GH	Ghana	\boxtimes	TJ	Tajikistan		
\boxtimes		Gambia	X	TM	Turkmenistan		
X		Croatia	\boxtimes	TR			
\boxtimes					Turkey		
	HU	Hungary	\boxtimes	TT	Trinidad and Tobago		
\boxtimes	ID	Indonesia	\boxtimes		Ukraine		
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\boxtimes	KΡ	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	\boxtimes	ZW	Zimbabwe		
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\boxtimes	KR	Republic of Korea	a na	tional	reserved for designating States (for the purposes of patent) which have become party to the PCT after		
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				ΔE	United Arab Emirates		
N C		Saint Lucia			•		
⋈	LK	Sri Lanka	X	.4A.	Republic of South Africa		

Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit, (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a nonce specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

LR Liberia

Sheet No. ...4...

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIR		Further priority crass are indicated in the Supplemental Box.						
Filing date Number		Where earlier application is:						
of earlier application (day/month/year)	of earlier application	national application:	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office				
item (1) (18.05.98)			· ogiona omee	receiving Office				
18 May 1998	981105	FIFI		•				
item (2)				·				
item (3)								
of the earlier application(s	The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office) identified above as item(s):							
Where the earlier application is a Convention for the Protection of Inc.	on ARIPO application it is m	andatory to indicate in the S	Summarial Ban as Isaas	me country party to the Paris Supplemental Box.				
	NAL SEARCHING AUT							
Choice of International Search (if two or more International Search competent to carry out the interna- the Authority chosen: the two-letter	rching Authorities are sear	quest to use results of ear ch has been carried out by o c (day/month/year)	r requested from the Intern	to that search (if an earlier sational Searching Authority):				
ISA / SE	tode may be used).	c (daymonile year)	Number	Country (or regional Office)				
Box No. VIII CHECK LIST	; LANGUAGE OF FILI	NG						
This international application co	:	al application is accompan	ied by the item(s) marke	ed below:				
1 -	4 1. [x] fee calcul							
description (excluding	- '	signed power of attorney	- 6	•				
1	a	eneral power of attorney;	•	/:				
	The statement explaining lack of signature							
abstract : 5. priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s): FI 981105 drawings : 2 6: translation of international application into (language):								
sequence listing part	i			other biological material				
of description :		e and/or amino acid seque						
Total number of sheets: 18								
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:		nguage of filing of the emational application:	English					
	F APPLICANT OR AG							
Next to each signature, indicase the name	me of the person signing and the	capacity in which the person sig	gns (if such expactly is not ob	vious from reading the request).				
	Borenius	& Co Oy Ab		•				
	Mill	, I						
	Silvio H							
	Patent A	lgent						
1. Date of actual receipt of the		ceiving Office use only -		2. Drawings:				
international application:								
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:								
corrections under PCT Article	4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):							
5. International Searching Authority ISA / (if two or more are competent): 6. Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid.								
Date of receipt of the record copy by the international Bureau:								

IPEA/ SE

PCT

CHAPTER II

DEMAND

under Article 31 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty:
The undersigned requests that the international application specified below be the subject of international preliminary examination according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty and hereby elects all eligible States (except where otherwise indicated).

For International Preliminary Examining Authority use only							
Identification of IPEA		Date of receipt of DEMAND					
Box No. I IDENTIFICATION OF T	HE INTERNATIONAL	APPLICATION	Applicant's or agent's file reference 8D15PC				
International application No.	International filing da	te (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority date (day/month/year)				
PCT/FI99/00424	17 May 1999 (17.0	5.99)	18 May 1998 (18:05.98)				
Title of invention							
CALL INFORMATION OUTPUT II	N A TELECOMMUNI	CATION NETWOR	₹K				
Box No. II APPLICANT(S)							
Name and address: (Family name followed by The address must include p	given name; for a legal entity, i oostal code and name of countr	full official designation. y.)	Telephone No.:				
TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M E S-126 25 Stockholm Sweden	ERICSSON (publ) et	al ·	Facsimile No.:				
Sweden			Teleprinter No.:				
State (that is, country) of nationality:							
Name and address: (Family name followed by	given name; for a legal entity.	full official designation. Th	e address must include postal code and name of country.)				
LIPSANEN, Mikko Harakkamäentie 59 B FIN-21380 Aura Finland							
State (that is, country) of nationality:		State (that is, country) of residence:				
FIN .	raison name: For a legal anti-	FIN	ne address must include nostal code and name of country.)				
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.) NILSSON, Patrik, Kim Kellonsoittajankatu 8 B 9 FIN-20500 Turku Finland							
State (that is, country) of nationality: FIN							
Further applicants are indicated on a continuation sheet.							

Sheet No. . . 2

International application No. PCT/FI99/00424

Continuation of Box No. II	APPLICANT(S)	
If none of t	the following sub-boxes is used, th	is sheet should not be included in the demand.
Name and address: (Family name f	followed by given name; for a legal entity, ful	ll official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)
PALM, Patrik, Kjell-Johan Starrängsringen 42 S-115 50 Stockholm Sweden		
State (that is, country) of nationa	ality: SE	State (that is, country) of residence: SE
Name and address: (Family name)	followed by given name; for a legal entity, fu	ll official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)
State (that is, country) of nations	ality:	State (that is, country) of residence:
Name and address: (Family name)	followed by given name; for a legal entity, fu	ll official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)
	•	
State (that is, country) of nation	ality:	State (that is, country) of residence:
Name and address: (Family name	followed by given name; for a legal entity, fi	ull official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)
		Constitution of socidors
State (that is, country) of nation	ality:	State (that is, country) of residence:
Further applicants are inc	licated on another continuation shee	et.

Sheet No. 3

International application No. PCT/FI99/00424

B ₀ x N ₀ . III AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR COI	RRESPONDENCE
The following person is agent common representative	
and X has been appointed earlier and represents the applicant(s) also for international pre-	iminary examination.
is hereby appointed and any earlier appointment of (an) agent(s)/common represen	tative is hereby revoked.
is hereby appointed, specifically for the procedure before the International Prelimination the agent(s)/common representative appointed earlier.	nary Examining Authority, in addition to
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)	Telephone No.:
The address must include postal code and fiame of country.)	+358 9 686 684 0
Borenius & Co Oy Ab	Facsimile No.:
Kansakoulukuja 3 FIN-00100 Helsinki	+358 9 686 684 44
Finland	Teleprinter No.:
Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common rep	resentative is/has been appointed and the
space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence	should be sent.
Box No. IV BASIS FOR INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION	
Statement concerning amendments:*	
1. The applicant wishes the international preliminary examination to start on the basis of:	
the international application as originally filed	
the description as originally filed	
as amended under Article 34	
the claims as originally filed	
as amended under Article 19 (together with any accompanying	g statement)
as amended under Article 34	•
the drawings as originally filed	
as amended under Article 34	
2. The applicant wishes any amendment to the claims under Article 19 to be consider	red as reversed.
3. The applicant wishes the start of the international preliminary examination to be p	
from the priority date unless the International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 19 or a notice from the applicant that he does not wish to make such box may be marked only where the time limit under Article 19 has not yet expired	amendments (Rule 69.1(d)). (This check-
* Where no check-box is marked, international preliminary examination will start on as originally filed or, where a copy of amendments to the claims under Article 19 and/or a under Article 34 are received by the International Preliminary Examining Authority before or the international preliminary examination report, as so amended.	mendments of the international application
Language for the purposes of international preliminary examination: English	
which is the language in which the international application was filed.	
which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of internation	nal search.
which is the language of publication of the international application.	actional preliminary evamination
which is the language of the translation (to be) furnished for the purposes of interr	actional profitmation y examination.
Box No. V ELECTION OF STATES	
The applicant hereby elects all eligible States (that is, all States which have been designate the PCT)	tted and which are bound by Chapter II of
excluding the following States which the applicant wishes not to elect:	

Sheet No. . . .

International application No. PCT/FI99/00424

Box No. VI CHECK LIST							
The demand is accompanied by the following elem Box No. IV, for the purposes of international pre	For International Preliminary Examining Authority use only received not received						
1. translation of international application	:	sheets					
2. amendments under Article 34	:	sheets					
 copy (or, where required, translation) of amendments under Article 19 	:	sheets					
 copy (or, where required, translation) of statement under Article 19 	:	sheets					
5. letter	:	sheets					
6. other (specify)	:	sheets		· 🗆			
The demand is also accompanied by the item(s) ma	rked below:	:					
1. X fee calculation sheet		4. statement e	explaining lack of sign	nature			
2. separate signed power of attorney			and or amino acid sec eadable form	quence listing in			
3. copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:		6. other (spec		,			
Box No. VII SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE							
Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing	g and the capa	city in which the person signs (if	such capacity is not obvio	ous from reading the demand).			
	•		•				
Borenius & Co Oy Ab							
Hanes Heikkilä		·					
Patent Agent							
		-					
For Internation	nal Prelimi	nary Examining Authority	use only				
Date of actual receipt of DEMAND:							
Adjusted date of receipt of demand due to CORRECTIONS under Rule 60.1(b):							
3. The date of receipt of the demand is A from the priority date and item 4 or 5,	FTER the ex , below, doe	xpiration of 19 months s not apply.	The applica	ant has been ecordingly.			
4. The date of receipt of the demand is Rule 80.5.	WITHIN th	ne period of 19 months from	om the priority date a	as extended by virtue of			
5. Although the date of receipt of the de is EXCUSED pursuant to Rule 82.	mand is afte	er the expiration of 19 mor	ths from the priority	date, the delay in arrival			
For International Bureau use only							
Demand received from IPEA on:							



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶: H04M 15/00, H04Q 7/38

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 99/60770

A1

(43) International Publication Date: 25 November 1999 (25.11.99)

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG,

BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/FI99/00424

(22) International Filing Date:

17 May 1999 (17.05.99)

(30) Priority Data:

981105

18 May 1998 (18.05.98)

FI

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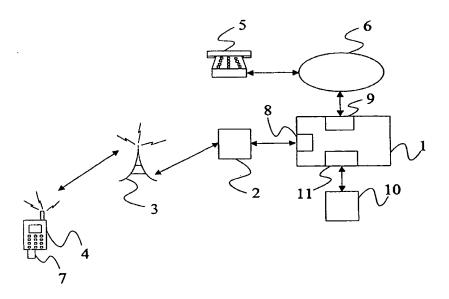
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Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: CALL INFORMATION OUTPUT IN A TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK



(57) Abstract

A method of providing information relating to a telephone call, in a GSM cellular radio telephone network, to a data storage system (10). The method comprises receiving caller identity information at a Mobile Switching Centre (1) of the network during a call set—up procedure between a mobile station (4) and the MSC (1) and storing the information at least temporarily at the MSC (1). An incoming call alert message is sent by the MSC (1) to a called device (5). In the event that the called device (5) answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message is sent to the MSC (1). In response to receipt of the call answer message, at least the received and stored caller identity information is output from the MSC (1) to the data storage system (10).

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CALL INFORMATION OUTPUT IN A TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for outputting call information in a telecommunication network.

Background to the Invention

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In telecommunication networks such as fixed access networks and cellular radio telephone networks there is usually a need to record call information at at least one exchange of the network. This information may include the identity of a caller (A-number), the 15 identity of the called party (B-number), and the duration of a call. In cellular radio telephone networks, the recorded information may also include the International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) code of. the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) used with the 20 calling mobile telephone, and the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) code of the calling telephone itself. Both the IMSI and IMEI codes are typically sent by a mobile telephone to the cellular network during a call set-up phase. For a given call, a record stored in an exchange is normally output to a centralised billing system of the network upon termination of the call. Historically, this record has been referred to as a "Toll Ticket" (TT) although more recently the term "Call Data Record" (CDR) has been used.

US5,506,893 describes a telecommunication network in which a CDR is output from a switching centre to an external billing system upon termination of a call.

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Summary of the Invention

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According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system, the method comprising:

receiving caller identity information at an exchange of the network during a call set-up procedure between a calling device and the exchange, and storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange;

sending an incoming call alert message to a called device;

prior to receiving a call answer message at the exchange, or in direct response to receipt of a call answer message, outputting from the exchange to said data storage system a Call Data Record containing at least the received caller identity information.

20 Embodiments of the present invention provide for the output of call information at a very early stage in a call, i.e. immediately following the answering of the call or during the call set-up phase. This makes possible, for example, real-time billing and fraud detection prior to or during a call.

In certain embodiments of the present invention, the telecommunication network comprises a cellular radio telephone network and the call is made from a cellular radio telephone device. The exchange from which the call information is output is then the Mobile Switching Centre (MSC). The information may include at least one of the subscriber telephone number, IMEI code, IMSI code, or B-number.

In other embodiments of the present invention, the telecommunication network comprises a fixed access

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network in which telephone device is coupled to the exchange via land lines. The information output by the exchange preferably includes the caller's telephone number (A-number) and the called number (B-number).

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According to a second aspect of the present invention there is provided apparatus for providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system, the apparatus comprising:

first receiving means for receiving caller identity information at an exchange of the network during a call set-up procedure between a calling device and the exchange, and for storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange;

transmitting means for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device;

second receiving means for receiving, in the event that the called device answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange; and

output means for outputting, prior to, or in response to, receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange to said data storage system, a Call Data Record containing at least the received caller identity information.

Preferably, said first and second receiving means, said transmitting means, and said output means are provided as an integral part of the network exchange. Where the network comprises a cellular radio telephone network, the exchange is a Mobile Switching Centre (MSC). The MSC may be contained within a housing which is physically spaced apart from an external billing system which is arranged to receive the Call Data Record output by the MSC. More preferably, a plurality of MSCs are

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arranged to provide the output CDRs to a common external billing system.

According to a third aspect of the present invention there is provided a telecommunication network having a plurality of interconnected exchanges for routing calls in the network, and a common billing system coupled to each of said exchanges, each exchange comprising:

first receiving means for receiving caller identity information during a call set-up procedure between a calling device and the exchange, and for storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange;

transmitting means for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device or to a called device via one or more further exchanges;

second receiving means for receiving, in the event that the called device answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange; and

output means for outputting, prior to or in response to receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange to a data storage system, a Call Data Record containing at least the received caller identity information.

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Brief Description of the Drawings

For a better understanding of the present invention and in order to show how the same may be carried into effect reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 shows schematically a telecommunication network including a cellular radio telephone network;

Figure 2 is a flow diagram illustrating the method of operation of the telecommunication network of Figure 1; and

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Figure 3 illustrates an external billing system shared by a number of Mobile Switching Centres of a cellular radio telephone network.

5 Detailed Description of Embodiments

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There is shown in Figure 1 a telecommunication network comprising a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) cellular radio telephone network and a fixed access network. The former consists of a Mobile Switching Centre (MSC) 1, a set of Base Station Controllers (BSC) 2 only one of which is shown in Figure 1, and a set of Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) 3 again only one of which is shown in the Figure. The MSC, BSCs, and BTSs provide functionality as defined in the relevant European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) GSM standards.

In the GSM network, mobile stations such as that indicated by reference numeral 4 communicate with a BTS 3 over the air interface. User data and signaling messages are coupled between the BTS 3 and the MSC 1 via the BSC 2. The MSC 1 acts as an exchange of the GSM network, routing calls between a mobile station 4 and a called, or calling, station.

In the example of Figure 1, the destination of a call from the mobile station 4 is a land line telephone 5 which belongs to a subscriber of a fixed access network 6. A call may be routed through several intermediate exchanges (e.g. in the case of an international call) and may also pass through several exchanges of the fixed access network, although for the sake of clarity these exchanges are not shown in Figure 1. In the same way, it will be appreciated that a call may be routed through several MSCs 1 en route from the mobile station 4 to the fixed line telephone 5.

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The mobile station 4 is provided with a Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) 7 which contains a solid state memory arranged to store a unique International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) code. The mobile station 4 itself has a solid state memory arranged to store a second unique code known as an International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) code. The form of these two codes is defined in the relevant GSM standard.

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When a user of the mobile terminal 4 places a call to the fixed line telephone 5 by dialing the B-number of that telephone, at least the IMSI code and the telephone number (A-number) assigned to the mobile terminal 4 are transmitted to an input/output device 8 of the MSC 1 on a signaling channel of the GSM network (the IMEI code may or may not be sent at this stage). In response to the call request, the MSC 1 first verifies the right of the mobile terminal 4 to use the services of the GSM network on the basis of the A-number and the IMSI code (e.g. using a database of subscribers of the GSM network).

Assuming that the mobile terminal 4 receives

25 authorisation from the MSC 1 to place the call, the MSC

1 transmits an incoming call request from an

output/output device 9 to the fixed line telephone 5 via

the fixed access telephone network. A signaling

protocol such as the Signaling System 7 (SS7) is used to

30 relay the request between the MSC 1 and the various

exchanges. When the request reaches the fixed line

telephone 5, the phone rings in the normal manner.

If the call is answered at the fixed line telephone 5, then a call answer message is returned to the fixed access network 6, either by the telephone 5 or by some intermediate device, e.g. a concentrator. The call

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answer message is also transmitted back to the input/output device 9 of the MSC 1 of the GSM network, again using the SS7 signaling protocol.

5 Connected to the MSC 1 of the GSM network is a so-called input/output group device or external billing system 10. This may be a personal computer (PC), work station, data storage device or the like, which logs information concerning calls switched by the MSC 1. The information recorded by the external billing system 10 enables the operator of the GSM network to charge subscribers, trace calls, and identify calls made from "illegal" equipment. The latter is achieved using the transmitted IMSI code and also the IMEI code (if transmitted).

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When the call answer message is received by the MSC 1 from the fixed line telephone 5, the MSC 1 provides a traffic channel (i.e. voice or data) to the mobile station 4 enabling the mobile subscriber to communicate with the fixed line telephone. In addition, receipt of the call answer message causes the MSC 1 to output to the external billing system 10, via an input/output device 11, the caller's A-number, IMSI code, the called party's B-number, and the call start time. This data is in the form of a partial Charging Data Record (CDR) and is recorded by the external billing system 10. When the call is terminated by one of the parties to the call hanging-up, a call termination message is received by the MSC, and a call end time output to the input/output group device 10 to complete the partial CDR.

Figure 2 is a flow chart illustrating the method of operation of the network of Figure 1, and relates in particular to the output of the CDR to the external billing system 10.

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The external billing system is physically separate from the MSC (1) which is usually contained within a single large housing. By transferring the partial CDR, upon receipt of the call answer message from the B-subscriber, to the external billing system the network operator is able to access the record at an early stage in a call for the purposes already set out above.

The external billing system is typically shared by a number of MSCs 1 of the GSM network. This is illustrated in Figure 3.

It will be appreciated by the person of skill in the art that various modifications may be made to the above described embodiment without departing from the scope of the present invention. For example, the exchange from which the CDR is output may be an exchange of a fixed access network rather than that of a cellular radio telephone network. In another modification, the partial CDR is output from the exchange to the external billing system during the call set-up phase, i.e. prior to the call answer message being received at the exchange from the B-subscriber. The CDR provided to the external billing system may include additional information such as the MSC identity, and the originating/terminating cell identity (Cell Global Identity) in the GSM network.

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Claims

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1. A method of providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system, the method comprising:

receiving caller identity information at an exchange of the network during a call set-up procedure between a calling device and the exchange, and storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange;

sending an incoming call alert message to a called device;

prior to receiving a call answer message at the exchange, or in direct response to receipt of a call answer message, outputting from the exchange to said data storage system a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.

- A method according to claim 1, wherein the
 telecommunication network comprises a cellular radio telephone network and the call is made from a cellular radio telephone device.
- 3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the cellular radio telephone network is a GSM network and said exchange from which the Call Data Record is output is a Mobile Switching Center, the method comprising outputting from the Mobile Switching Center at least one of the subscriber telephone number, IMEI code, or IMSI code.
 - 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the telecommunication network comprises a fixed access network in which telephone device is coupled to the exchange via land lines, the method comprising outputting from the exchange at least the caller's telephone number (A-number).

5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims and comprising outputing said call data record to an external billing system.

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6. Apparatus for providing information relating to a telecommunication call, in a telecommunication network, to a data storage system (10), the apparatus comprising:

first receiving means (8) for receiving caller
identity information at an exchange (1) of the network
during a call set-up procedure between a calling device
(4) and the exchange (1), and for storing the
information at least temporarily at the exchange (1);

transmitting means (9) for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device (5);

second receiving means (9) for receiving, in the event that the called device (5) answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange (1); and

output means (11) for outputting, prior to or in response to receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange (1) to said data storage system (10), a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.

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- 7. Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first and second receiving means (8,9), said transmitting means (9), and said output means (11) are provided as an integral part of the network exchange (1), and said data storage system (10) is physically separate from the exchange (1).
- 8. Apparatus according to claim 6 or 7, the network comprising a cellular radio telephone network and said exchange (1) being a Mobile Switching Centre (MSC) of the cellular network.

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9. A telecommunication network having a plurality of interconnected exchanges for routing calls in the network, and a billing system coupled to each of said exchanges, each exchange comprising:

first receiving means (8) for receiving caller identity information during a call set-up procedure between a calling device (4) and the exchange (1), and for storing the information at least temporarily at the exchange (1);

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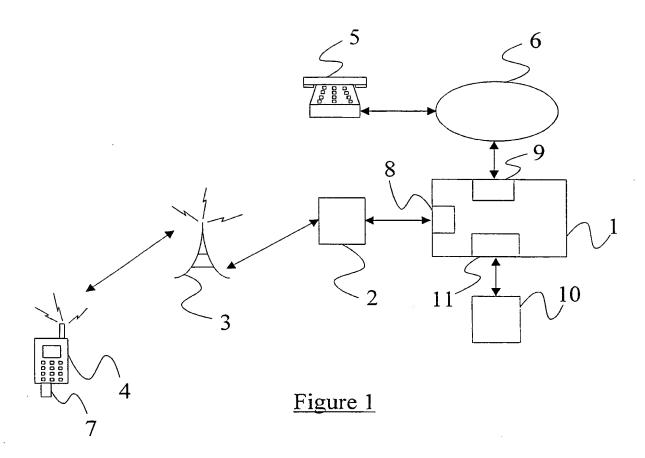
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transmitting means (9) for transmitting an incoming call alert message to a called device (5) or to a called device (5) via one or more further exchanges (1);

second receiving means (9) for receiving, in the event that the called device (5) answers or otherwise accepts the incoming call alert, a call answer message sent to the exchange (1); and

output means (11) for outputting, prior to or in response to receipt of said call answer message, from the exchange (1) to a data storage system (10), a Call Data Record containing at least the received and stored caller identity information.



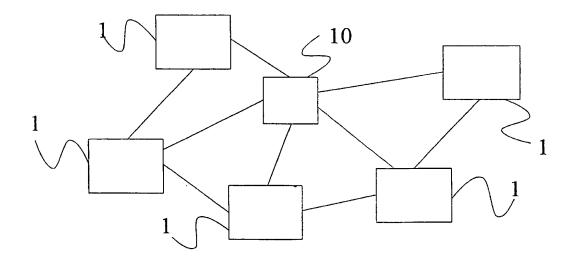


Figure 3

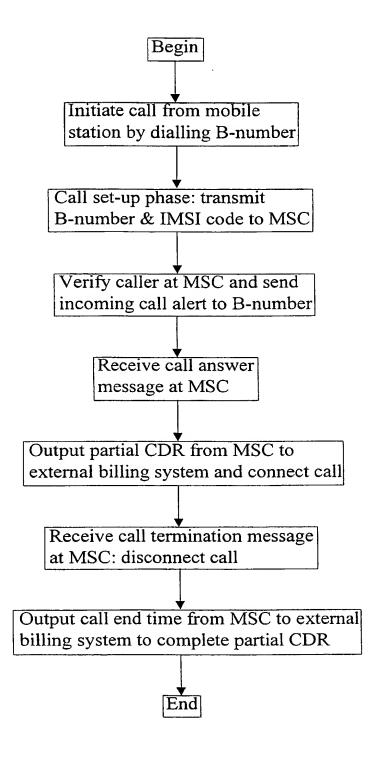


Figure 2

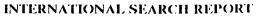
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC6: H04M 15/00, H04Q 7/38 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both na	tional classification and IPC	
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Information on patent family members

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	ent document n search repor	t	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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US	5396548	Α	07/03/95	NON	E		
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				AU	1721795	* -	29/08/95
				CN	1124556	A	12/06/96
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